



Attorney Docket No. 4990.210-US

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Blinkovsky *et al.*

Confirmation No.: 8547

Serial No.: 09/712,338

Group Art Unit: 1633

Filed: November 12, 2000

Examiner: R. Prouty

For: Carboxypeptidases and Nucleic Acids Encoding Same

RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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AUG 27 2003
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Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed April 22, 2003, that made an election of species requirement.

In response to this requirement, Applicants hereby elect with traverse the species of (g) N-CBZ-Ala-Phe. Claims 30 and 40-49 read on the elected species. Applicants hereby reserve the right to add dependent claims to additional species under 37 CFR § 1.141.

The basis for traverse is that there would not be a serious burden on the examiner if election were not required because the polypeptide having carboxypeptidase activity has the ability to hydrolyze X from N-CBZ-Ala-X wherein X is any amino acid. The amino acids listed in Claim 47 are those amino acids which are preferentially hydrolyzed from N-CBZ-Ala-X wherein X is any amino acid. Claim 47 has been amended to recite such preferential hydrolysis: "The isolated nucleic acid sequence of claim 46, wherein the encoded polypeptide preferentially hydrolyzes Ile, Glu, Lys, Arg, Asp, Asn, Phe, and Tyr as X from N-CBZ-Ala-X."

The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if there are any questions concerning this response or application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 19, 2003